

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for decentralizing communication services in a telecommunications system, comprising:

a switch fabric which provides bearer functions;

a switch intelligence which provides control functions for said switch fabric, said switch intelligence logically separated from said switch fabric;

a switch fabric proxy service for providing a normalized interface between said switch fabric and said switch intelligence for all communications involving said switch

~~by interfacing to said switch fabric with any one of a plurality of application~~

~~program interfaces~~ and interfacing to said switch intelligence with a uniform application

~~program interface, wherein the normalized interface comprises any one of a plurality of~~

~~vendor-specific interfaces associated with the switch fabric and the uniform interface~~

~~comprises a non-vendor specific interface associated with the switch intelligence; and~~

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a feature processor, said feature processor executing at least one telecommunications function, for interacting with said switch intelligence to thereby provide said a telecommunications feature.

2. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said switch intelligence further comprises:

at least one facility instance instantiated by a facility service using a facility model, said facility instance representing the bearer and signaling facilities of a party to a call, for interacting with said switch fabric proxy service to communicate with said switch fabric.

3. (previously presented) The system of claim 2, wherein said switch intelligence further comprises:

a connection manager service representing the connectors for said party to a call for interacting with said switch fabric proxy service to communicate with said switch fabric.

4. (previously presented) The system of claim 3, wherein said switch intelligence further comprises:

at least one call segment instance instantiated by a call segment instance service using a call model, said call segment instance representing the call logic and call data for said party to a call, for interacting with said feature processor, said connection manager service, and said facility instance.

5. (previously presented) The system of claim 2, wherein said switch intelligence further comprises:

a first call processing creation environment, said first call processing creation environment interacting with said facility service, for modifying said facility model.

6. (previously presented) The system of claim 4, wherein said switch intelligence further comprises:

a second call processing creation environment, said second call processing creation environment interacting with said call segment instance service, for modifying said call model.

7. (previously presented) The system of claim 2, wherein said switch intelligence further comprises:

a third call processing creation environment, said third call processing creation environment interacting with said facility service, for creating new facility models.

8. (previously presented) The system of claim 4, wherein said switch intelligence further comprises:

a fourth call processing creation environment, said fourth call processing creation environment interacting with said call segment instance service, for creating new call models.

9. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a switch-fabric proxy service for providing a normalized interface between a switch fabric and a switch intelligence for all communications involving said switch fabric by interfacing to said switch fabric with any one of a plurality of application programming interfaces and interfacing to said switch intelligence with a uniform application programming interface.

10. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said plurality of application programming interfaces is at least one of vendor-specific and switch-fabric-specific.

11. (previously presented) An apparatus comprising:
a switch fabric; and
a switch-fabric proxy service for providing a normalized interface between said switch fabric and a switch intelligence for communications involving said switch fabric.

12. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said switch fabric is physically separated from said switch intelligence.

13. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said switch fabric is logically separated from said switch intelligence.

14. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said switch-fabric proxy service interfaces to said switch fabric with any one of a plurality of application programming interfaces and interfaces to said switch intelligence with a uniform application programming interface.

15. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 14 wherein each of said plurality of application programming interfaces comprises at least one of a vendor-

specific application programming interface and a switch-fabric-specific application programming interface.

16. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said switch-fabric proxy service translates switch-fabric communications into switch-intelligence communications.

17. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said switch-fabric communications are at least one of vendor-specific and switch-fabric-specific.

18. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said switch-fabric proxy service translates switch-intelligence communications into switch-fabric communications.

19. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said switch-fabric communications are at least one of vendor-specific and switch-fabric-specific.

20. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said switch-fabric proxy service translates switch-fabric communications into communications defined according to a uniform interface.

21. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said switch-fabric proxy service translates communications defined according to a uniform interface into switch-fabric communications.

22. (previously presented) An apparatus comprising:
a switch intelligence for providing control functions to at least one switch fabric;
and

a switch-fabric proxy service for providing a normalized interface, between said switch intelligence and said at least one switch fabric, for communications involving said at least one switch fabric.

23. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said switch intelligence is one of logically separated and physically separated from said at least one switch fabric.

24. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22 further comprising a feature processor executing at least one telecommunications function, for interacting with said switch intelligence to thereby provide at least one telecommunications function.

25. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein each of said plurality of application programming interfaces comprises at least one of a vendor-specific application programming interface and a switch-fabric-specific application programming interface.

26. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said switch intelligence provides control functions to a plurality of switch fabrics.

27. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said switch intelligence further comprises at least one of a facility service, a call connection manager service, and a call segment instance service.

28. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 27 wherein said at least one of a facility service, a call connection manager service, and a call segment instance service is distributed over a plurality of network elements.

29. (previously presented) A switch-fabric proxy service comprising:
means for translating switch-fabric communications into switch-intelligence

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communications; and

means for translating switch-intelligence communications into switch-fabric communications.

30. (previously presented) A switch-fabric proxy service comprising:
means for translating switch-fabric communications into communications defined according to a uniform switch-intelligence interface; and
means for translating the communications defined according to the uniform switch-intelligence interface into switch-fabric communications.

31. (previously presented) A switch-fabric proxy service according to claim 30, further comprising:

means for translating communications defined according to the uniform interface into switch-intelligence communications; and

means for translating switch-intelligence communications into communications defined according to a uniform interface.

32. (previously presented) An apparatus comprising:

a switch-fabric proxy service that is capable of at least one of translating switch-fabric communications into switch-intelligence communications, translating the switch-intelligence communications into the switch-fabric communications, translating the switch-fabric communications into communications defined according to a uniform switch-intelligence interface, and translating the communications defined according to a uniform switch-intelligence interface into the switch-fabric communications.

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33. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said proxy service includes a normalized interface between a switch fabric and a switch intelligence.

34. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said switch intelligence is one of logically separated and physically separated from said switch fabric.

35. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 32, further comprising a switch fabric including said proxy service.

36. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 32, further comprising a switch intelligence including said proxy service.

37. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said switch-fabric proxy service includes an application programming interface for interfacing with a switch fabric.

38. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said application programming interface is at least one of a vendor-specific interface and a switch-fabric-specific interface.

39. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said switch-fabric proxy service includes an application programming interface for interfacing with a switch-intelligence.

40. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a switch intelligence for controlling a switch fabric, said switch intelligence physically separate from the switch fabric and couplable to a feature processor that executes at least one telecommunications function, wherein said switch intelligence comprises all aspects of data processing required to complete a bearer request.

41. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 40, wherein said switch intelligence further comprises at least one of a facility service, a call connection manager service, and a call segment instance service, wherein said at least one of a facility service, a call connection manager service, and a call segment instance service is distributed over a plurality of network elements.

42. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein said switch intelligence includes at least one of a first application programming interface communicable with a switch-fabric proxy service and a second application programming interface communicable with the feature processor.

43. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising at least one application programming interface communicable between said at least one of a facility service, a call connection manager service, and a call segment instance service and another of said at least one of a facility service, a call connection manager service, and a call segment instance service.

44. (previously presented) An apparatus comprising:
a feature processor for executing at least one telecommunications function; and
an application programming interface communicating with said feature processor,
wherein said application programming interface translates feature processor communications into at least one of communications defined according to a uniform interface and switch-intelligence communications.

45. (previously presented) An apparatus for coupling at least one switch fabric having a control interface to at least one switch intelligence for controlling the switch fabric, the switch intelligence being physically separated from the switch fabric, comprising:

a switch-fabric proxy service including a first interface communicable with the switch fabric, the first interface being compatible with the switch-fabric control interface, and a second interface communicable with the switch intelligence by which the switch intelligence controls the switch fabric.

46. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the second interface is an application programming interface accessible to processes running in a computing environment of the switch intelligence.
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47. (new) An apparatus, comprising:
a call completion device for providing bearer functions, said call completion device performing communications with a switch intelligence that is separated from said call completion device.

48. (new) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the switch intelligence comprises a call state model, and wherein the call completion device communicates with the switch intelligence to affect a call state.

49. (new) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the call state is represented in the call state model.
